

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 20, 2004, has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments and the following remarks are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. Claims 1, 4, 5, and 7-25 have been allowed.

By this Amendment, claim 2 has been amended to depend from allowed claim 1. New claim 26 has been added and depends from allowed claim 15. No new matter has been added. The amendments to the claims do not narrow the scope of the claims. Claim 1-5 and 7-26 are pending and claims 2, 3, and 26 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

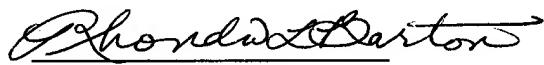
The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1, 4, 5, and 7-25. Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ikeda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,969,138). Claim 2, as amended, depends from allowed claim 1. Claim 3 depends from claim 2. As such, the Applicants submit claims 2 and 3 are allowable at least for their dependency from allowable base claim 1, as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein.

In addition, claim 26 depends from allowed claim 15. As such, the Applicants submit that claim 26 is also allowable at least for its dependency from allowable base claim 15, as well as for the additional subject matter recited therein. Accordingly, the Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request the prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowability.

Should the Examiner believe anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension, together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to counsel's Deposit Account No. 01-2300, **referencing Attorney Dkt. No. 107156-09070.**

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure: Extra Claims Fee Transmittal